1	2	3
266.	(I) Tinsukia	528
	(II) Tinsukia	0
267.	Titabar	38
268.	Udalguri	20
269.	Udharbond	22
270.	Umrangshu	46
271.	Uriamghat	0

Survey for Jhargram to Bankura Railway Line

243. SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to connect Jhargram with Bankura by constructing a new railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The survey to connect Jhargram to Bankura will be considered whenever a demand for the same is received by the Railways.

Phone on Demand

244. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "phone on demand to remain a dream" appearing in the "Indian Express" dated January 10, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Telecom Policy 1994 envisages provision of telephone connections on demand by 1997 with Private Sector Supplementing the efforts of Department of Telecommunications. However, there has been a delay in the entry of the Private Sector in the field of basic services and thus the objective of providing telephone on demand by 1997 is not possible. Department of Telecommunications has submitted 9th Five Year Plan Proposals to the Planning Commission for approval which envisages to provide telephone on demand during 9th Five Year Plan with Private Sector supplementing the efforts of the Government.

Wrong Telephone Bills

245. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some of the consumers at phone lines 718 and 719 in North district have been receiving bills as per their old telephone numbers instead of new ones since 1995;

(b) whether these consumers have now been receiving arrear bill of thousands calls wrongly;

(c) the reasons therefor and the action taken to rectify the error;

(d) whether such wrong bills are not being corrected instantly and the consumers are harassed by AO (North) and the staff of Keshav Puram Exchange in the name of bringing actual meter reading; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Subscribers received bills for old number for one billing cycle as it was due to be paid by them upto the date of cut-over or billing date for normal billing cycle for those numbers who had alread been fed before the date of cut over i.e. 26.5.96.

(b) Calls from the date of cut over to Ist Billing cycle for new numbers were correctly charged on the basis of actual meter reading and no abnormal complaints of high calls were received.

(c) As date for billing cycle for old numbers had already been fed before cut-over, the subscribers received bills for old numbers for one billing cycle. Such a situation